

Law Student Opportunities

Civil Law Division

Correctional Law Section

San Francisco



The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General is currently recruiting students for its 2009 Summer Internship Program. The Civil Law Division, Correctional Law Section ("CLS"), provides exciting and rewarding opportunities for candidates interested in pursuing a career in public service and civil litigation.

Deputy Attorneys General in CLS represent employees of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in civil suits filed by prisoners and parolees. Cases range in scope from individual damages claims to large-scale class actions seeking permanent injunctive relief, and present issues ranging from state tort claims to complex constitutional issues. Deputies are responsible for their own cases from the initial appearance in trial court through appeal, and appear regularly in both state and federal court. The majority of the section's cases involve defending federal civil rights lawsuits challenging conditions of confinement.

Students participating in CLS's Summer Internship Program may assist deputies with legal research and writing projects; prepare civil pleadings, including motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment; and draft civil discovery requests or responses. Typical motions address procedural and substantive issues, including qualified immunity and the merits of constitutional claims. Students may also have the opportunity to draft or to make substantial contributions to appellate briefs. Each student is supervised by a deputy, who will review the student's written work.

Applicants for the CLS Summer Internship Program must have excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. Applicants should have completed law school classes in constitutional law, civil procedure, and research and writing. Appellate and trial advocacy may be helpful. We are only accepting applications for second and third year law students for the Summer Internship Program.

How to Apply:

Students interested in applying to CLS's San Francisco Summer Internship Program should submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample to:

Tim McDonough, Deputy Attorney General
Emily Brinkman, Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General, Correctional Law Section
455 Golden Gate Ave., Ste. 11000, San Francisco, CA 94102
Tim.McDonough@doj.ca.gov
(415) 703-5606
Emily.Brinkman@doj.ca.gov
(415) 703-5742

Hiring will be done on a rolling basis, but materials should in no case be submitted later than February 27, 2009.

This is an un-paid internship; however some students have received course credit from their law schools for their work in the past.

